

**What is Claimed:**

1. An apparatus for intelligent, seamless switching between a plurality of data or communications networks, comprising:
  - 5 a mobile electronics device;
  - a network connection means, operable on said mobile electronics device, for connecting said mobile electronics device to said plurality of networks;
  - a network monitoring means capable of measuring at least one quality of connection parameter for said plurality of networks; and
  - 10 a selection means, responsive to at least one pre-selected user preference and responsive to said at least one quality of connection parameter, for selectively connecting said mobile electronics device to one of said networks.
2. The apparatus of claim 1 where said network connection means is capable of  
15 establishing a wireless connection to at least one of said plurality of networks.
3. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said selection means further comprises: means for detecting a network; means for processing said client preferences; and means for detecting data traffic.  
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4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said pre-selected user preference is one or more of a network identifier, an application's connection-driving parameter, a network detection mode, a mode of operation and a pre-assigned network priority.
- 25 5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said mode of operation is selected from an always-on mode and a connect-on-demand mode.
6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said connect-on-demand mode comprises only connecting to one of said networks when said means for detecting data traffic indicates an  
30 -application-requiring network access.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said quality of connection parameter is one or more of a ping interval, a ping-offset, and a ping timeout.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising means for providing said quality of connection parameter to an application running on said mobile electronic device.

9. A method of intelligent, seamless switching between networks, said method comprising the steps of:

10 providing a mobile electronic device;  
providing a first and a second network connection capability operational on said mobile electronic device;  
providing a rule comprising at least one pre-selected user preference and at least one quality of connection parameter; and  
15 selecting one of said first and second network connection capabilities responsive to said rule.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said first and second network connection capability comprise a wireless communications link.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said pre-selected user preference is one or more of a network identifier, an application's connection-driving parameter, a detection mode, an accesses mode, a network priority, and a mode of operation.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said mode of operation is selected from an always-on mode and a connect-on-demand mode.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said connect-on-demand mode comprises only connecting to one of said networks when an application requiring network access is detected.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein said quality of connection parameter is one or more of a ping off-set, a ping interval and a ping timeout.

15. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing said quality of connection parameter to an application running on said mobile electronic device.

16. A computer-readable medium, operable in conjunction with a mobile electronic device having a first and a second network connection capability, said computer-readable medium comprising instructions for:

- 5 parsing a rule comprising at least one pre-selected user preference and at least one quality of connection parameter for said networks; and
- selecting one of said first and second network connection capabilities responsive to said rule.

17. A computing device comprising: a computer-readable medium operable in conjunction with a mobile electronic device having a first and a second network connection capability, said computer-readable medium comprising instructions for:

- 10 parsing a rule comprising at least one pre-selected user preference and at least one quality of connection parameter for said networks; and
- 15 selecting one of said first and second network connection capabilities responsive to said rule.